Shelby Kv1 Murray Landrieu Nelson (FL) Smith Lautenberg Nelson (NE) Snowe Leahy Obama. Specter Levin Stabenow Pryor Lieberman Reed Stevens Lincoln Reid Sununu Lott Roberts Talent Lugar Rockefeller Thomas Martinez Salazar Thune Santorum McCain Vitter McConnell Sarbanes Voinovich Mikulski Schumer Warner Murkowski Sessions

NOT VOTING-1

Inouye

The bill (H.R. 1268), as amended, was passed, as follows:

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The title was amended so as to read: "An Act Making Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.".

Mr. COCHRAN. I move to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed. Mr. CRAIG. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate insists on its amendment, requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, and the Chair appoints Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. Bond, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Burns, Mr. Shelby, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Bennett, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Leahy, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REID of Nevada, Mr. Kohl, Mrs. Murray, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, and Ms. LANDRIEU conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, I thank all Senators for their cooperation in the passage of this bill. There were a lot of amendments offered, and we agreed to some of them. Some of them were adopted. We are going to conference with the House now to work out differences between the two bills. I am confident we will be able to come back with a product in the form of a conference report which the Senate can support, which will continue to support the additional funding that is needed for this fiscal year for our troops in the field, for those who are deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan and elsewhere in the world in the war on terror, and will meet the needs of our State Department through replenishment of accounts that have been depleted because of the disaster in the tsunami episode and for other needs the Senate and House have seen fit to include in this appropriations bill.

As my first bill to manager on the floor of the Senate as chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I have to give great credit to the assistance I received personally from staff members here in the Senate, other Senators as well who are more experienced and who chaired important subcommittees in

the past and this full committee, as a matter of fact.

Specifically, I am thinking about Senator BYRD, the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, who has served as chairman of this committee and ranking member of the committee; Senator Stevens, who is chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee; Senator INOUYE, who is the Democrat senior on that suhcommittee, both of whom helped shape the content of this bill in areas under the jurisdiction of their subcommittee; and the staff director, Keith Kennedy, who is back from a leave of absence he had doing other things for the last several years but who, as a former staff director of this committee, provided strong leadership for our staff and gave me tremendous support which I needed to get this bill to this point. I am very grateful to him for his support and those who worked closely with him, like Terry Sauvain on the Democratic side; Sid Ashworth, who is the clerk of Defense Appropriations committee, and her counterpart on the Democratic side, Charlie Houy; Paul Grove: Tim Rieser: Clayton Heil, who is counsel to the committee; and Chuck Kieffer, all of whom provided very important and appreciated support to me during the handling of this legislation.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, as we bring to a close the debate on the emergency supplemental, H.R. 1268, I thank my good friend from the State of Mississippi, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, THAD COCHRAN. Senator Cochran was recently installed as the new Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, and, although he has managed numerous bills on the floor in the past, this is the first appropriations bill that he has managed as the chairman of the Appropriations Committee. I compliment Senator COCHRAN for a job well done, and I especially thank him for his patience. In fact, all of the Members should thank him for his patience. We have been on this bill for the better part of 2 weeks, and we have given consideration to many, many amendments. Throughout all of these many days of debate on the underlying bill and on the numerous amendments offered by both sides, Senator COCHRAN has kept a level head, and he has shown patience in seeing that this supplemental is processed in an orderly manner and that no Member is denied an opportunity to have input on this bill.

I also join with Senator COCHRAN in expressing gratitude to the staff members on both sides of the aisle who helped us with processing this bill and all those amendments. They worked late into the evening hours on some of these matters, and I appreciate not only their hard work but also their unstinting dedication to this institution.

Mr. President, this is only one in a series of supplemental requests that have come from the administration asking the Congress to appropriate more funds for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and for reconstruction efforts in those countries. With approval of this supplemental, we will have approved over \$280 billion for the two wars through emergency supplemental bills. We should not continue to fund these wars in this way. This is not the chairman's fault. He can only respond to the administration's proposals. It is evident that many of my colleagues are in agreement that funding for war activities should be processed in regular annual appropriations measures, not through emergency supplementals. This was clearly and emphatically expressed again in of the sense of the Senate amendment earlier this week. I hope that this administration will take serious note of the Senate's strong view in this regard.

I assure my colleagues here today and the people of this country that I fully and wholeheartedly support our men and women in uniform. I give these troops my gratitude and my respect. I wish that we could give them more—I wish that we could give them a clearly defined mission, with a clearly defined strategy for ending the war in Iraq and coming home.

But, this administration is not winding down its military operations in Iraq—that is evident from the size of this most recent request submitted by the President. To the contrary, it appears that the United States may be gearing up either to accommodate a permanent military presence in Iraq or to establish a launching pad for other military operations in the region. This, certainly, would be the wrong message to send to the people of Iraq and others in the region. I pray that this is not the case.

Thank you, Mr. President, and I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAIG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION

Mr. CRAIG. Madam President, we have completed a tremendously important piece of legislation for the funding of our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. During this afternoon, I, along with Senator Danny Akaka, my ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and Senator Mike DeWine, added an amendment I want to speak for a few moments about because I think it addresses a tremendous gap in the coverage that exists in the treatment of the soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen who are fighting for our country at this very moment.

Our amendment addresses the coverage gap through the creation of a